

REMARKS

Claims 8, 9, 11, and 12 are pending. Claims 8, 9, 11, and 12 have been amended. Claims 1 - 7 and 10 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

In the August 22, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 - 5, 6, 7, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,970,208 to Shim ("the Shim reference") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,802,026 to Tsukihashi ("the Tsukihashi reference"). Claims 1 - 5, 6, 7, and 10 have been cancelled.

In the August 22, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 8, 9, 11, and 12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The applicants have rewritten claim 8, 9, 11, and 12 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 8, 9, 11, and 12 are in condition for allowance.

The applicants are also submitting an Information Disclosure Statement and a PTO-1449 form. The references cited on the PTO-1449 form were cited in a counterpart Japanese patent application.

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Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call either of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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